

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 COTONO 00156 211619Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 A-01 OPR-02

SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00 MCT-01 AID-05 /072 W

-----211625Z 129373 /40

O 211539Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9279

AMEMBASSY LAGOS NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LOME NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ACCRA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 156

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, CASC, AEMR, DM

SUBJECT: SITREP ON CRO DAVIS

REF: A. STATE 13709, B. COTONOU 149

1. AS OF 1500Z HOURS CRO DAVIS IS STILL NOT RELEASED FROM GPRB DETENTION. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY AMEMBASSY COTONOU FRIDAY, JAN. 21, TO SECURE HIS RELEASE.

2. AT OPENING OF BUSINESS THIS MORNING CHARGE AND VICE CONSUL WERE RECEIVED BY DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL, MFA. WE GAVE HIM A COPY OF A NOTE WHICH WAS ALSO BEING SENT THROUGH FORMAL CHANNELS TO THE MINISTRY. THAT NOTE ASKED OFFICIALLY FOR AN AUDIENCE WITH THE PRESIDENT AND MINISTER OF INTERIOR. IN AN OBVIOUS ATTEMPT TO HEAD OFF OUR EFFORT OR AT LEAST DELAY US, THE DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL SAID HE HAD BEEN IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE AUTHORITIES ON THIS MATTER AND THAT HE WAS CONFIDENT DAVIS WOULD BE RELEASED "BEFORE 11:30". I
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REPLIED THAT MY INSTRUCTIONS WERE TO REQUEST THE AUDIENCE IMMEDIATELY.

3. AT SAME TIME AS ABOVE MEETING CONSUL WENT TO SURETE AND WAS TOLD NO ONE HAD ARRIVED FOR WORK YET.

4. CONSUL AND VICE CONSUL AGAIN WENT TO SURETE AT 10

O'CLOCK AND WERE TOLD THAT COMMISSION HAD BEEN MEETING UNTIL THREE AM NIGHT BEFORE AND WAS STILL IN SESSION, THUS HAD NOT DECIDED ON FINAL DISPOSITION OF DAVIS' CASE.

5. CHARGE THEN WENT TO A MEETING CALLED BY THE DEAN OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS TO DISCUSS VIOLATIONS OF DIPLOMATIC CONVENTIONS DURING PAST WEEK. AT THAT MEETING THE DEAN AGREED TO A FORMAL APPROACH TO THE MINISTRY FROM THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS FOR THE RELEASE AND PROPER TREATMENT IN FUTURE OF ANY AND ALL FOREIGNERS WITH DIPLOMATIC STATUS IN COTONOU, AS WELL AS SEVERAL OTHER POINTS OF A MORE TECHNICAL NATURE. AFTER MEETING, DEAN AGREED IN PERSONAL INTERVIEW WITH CHARGE TO BRING UP MATTER OF DAVIS' IMPRISONMENT AGAIN AT VERY HIGHEST LEVELS SINCE HIS FIRST REQUEST HAD THUS FAR NOT BEEN HEEDDED. EGYPTIAN EMBOFF WHO HAD ATTENDED MEETING TOLD CHARGE ON THE WAY OUT THAT SINCE THE TWO DAYS WHICH THEY HAD TOLD US WOULD BE NECESSARY NOW HAD PASSED (PARA 7 REF B), THEY WOULD AGAIN MAKE A PERSONAL APPROACH TO THEIR CONTACT IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.

6. AT SAME TIME AS ABOVE MEETING VICE CONSUL WENT TO SURETE AND WAS TOLD THAT DAVIS ONCE AGAIN BEING HELD AT CAMP GUEZO. VICE CONSUL THEN WENT TO CAMP AND IMMEDIATELY SAW DAVIS, WHO IS STILL IN GOOD HEALTH AND SPIRITS.

7. VICE CONSUL THEN WENT TO MFA, INFORMED PROTOCOL OFFICE THAT DAVIS STILL HAD NOT BEEN RELEASED AND CONFIDENTIAL

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REITERATED OUR DEMAND, UNDER INSTRUCTIONS, FOR AN IMMEDIATE AUDIENCE WITH THE PRESIDENT AND THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR. HE ALSO INFORMED PROTOCOL THAT HE WAS PROCEEDING TO THE PRESIDENCY TO DELIVER A COPY OF THIS MORNING'S DIPLOMATIC NOTE. DIPLOMATIC NOTE PASSED TO DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL AT PRESIDENCY.

8. ADMIN OFFICER THEN DELIVERED FOOD TO DAVIS AT CAMP GUEZO AND TOLD HIM WE WERE DOING OUR BEST TO GET HIM OUT TODAY. EMBASSY NOW AWAITING DAVIS RELEASE OR APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT. IF DAVIS IS RELEASED BEFORE I AM GIVEN APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT OF MINISTER OF INTERIOR, I ASSUME I SHOULD CANCEL MY REQUEST FOR THOSE APPOINTMENTS. REQUEST DEPARTMENTAL INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING THIS EVENTUALLY, AND DESIREABILITY AT THAT TIME OF MAKING OFFICIAL PROTEST: TO WHOM, PRECISE NATURE AND PREFERRED WORDING.
LASOR

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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TAGS: PINS, CASC, AEMR, DM, (DAVIS, JOHN)
To: STATE LAGOS
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